SPECIAL CENSUS CONFIRMS POPULATION EXPLOSION

Population Grew Nearly 173% in Just 6 Years

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WHITESTOWN, Ind. – Town leaders knew Whitestown's population has been booming and the demographics changing in recent years. But even they underestimated the growth, the diversity and the young average age of the community's growing population.

A recently completed special census by the U.S. Census Bureau shows Whitestown's population more than doubled from 2,867 in 2010 to 7,814 by November 2016. That represents an increase of more than 172% in just the past six years. The average age of residents dropped to 30.7 years old, making Whitestown among the youngest communities in the state. Boone County's median age is 38 and Indiana's median age is 35.2, according to the latest numbers available. Diversity is on the rise too, with the number of white households dropping to 83.8% -- below the state average of 85.8%.

"This is fantastic news for our community." said Town Council President, Eric Miller. "Officially documenting our rapid growth means we qualify to receive more state and federal dollars that we can spend on things like roads, trails and amenities to serve our growing number of residents. Adding walking and biking paths and improving quality of life are top priorities as we grow."

The population increase means Whitestown now qualifies for nearly $1.5 million in additional state and federal funding over the next five years. In addition to dollars, the population growth secures Whitestown more liquor licenses; three beer-only licenses, three beer and wine (2 way) licenses and three beer, wine and spirits (3 way) licenses.

"Those additional liquor licenses can be used as an economic development tool, allowing us to attract more high-end restaurants and brew pubs to Whitestown, which our residents have been asking for." said Town Manager, Dax Norton. Whitestown is eligible to receive those liquor licenses and the increased state and federal dollars immediately.

Town leaders had expected the special census to show a population of about 6,800 residents. The certified U.S. Census numbers show about a thousand more residents than anticipated. Whitestown has been recognized as the fastest growing community in the state of Indiana five years in a row. Projections show the growth will continue, swelling to an estimated 12,000 residents by the next decennial census in 2020.

Whitestown continues to experience a housing, business and industrial boom as well. Corporations like Cummins, Daimler Trucks North America, REGO-FIX, Telamon, AmerisourceBergen, Vroom, RPM Machinery, CSL Plasma, Weaver Popcorn, GNC, Kenco and Elliott Company are among the quality companies that have chosen to move to fast-growing Whitestown in just the past three years.

Whitestown leaders are also proud of the growing diversity of the small community. The Black or Africa American population has almost doubled in the last six years to 5.4% and the Asian population has more than doubled to 6.4%. Whitestown was the first of the communities in the donut counties surrounding Indianapolis to pass a Human Relations ordinance and create a Human Relations Commission to encourage inclusiveness and celebrate diversity back in April 2015.

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